

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 TRSY-02 /091 W
-----102116 250245Z /23

R 241515Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2127
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION USBERLIN
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 11607

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

USEEC

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: XT, CH, PEPR
SUBJECT: SOVIETS CRITICIZE WEU DRAFT RESOLUTION

SUMMARY: SOVIETS, IN ORAL DEMARCHES AND PUBLIC
COMMENTARY, ARE ATTACKING WEU DRAFT RESOLUTION
REFERENCES TO CHINA. END SUMMARY.

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1. DURING MAY 22 QP MEETING, BRITISH, FRENCH AND
FRG AMBASSADORS REPORTED THAT SOVIETS HAVE MADE
DEMARCHE IN LONDON, BONN AND PARIS OVER WESTERN EURO-
PEAN UNION (WEU) DRAFT RESOLUTION REGARDING WEU TIES
WITH CHINA. SOVIET DEMARCHES WERE SAID TO BE ORAL
AND TO HAVE TERMED DRAFT RESOLUTION "PROVOCATIVE."

2. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. SOVIET ANTI-PRC PRESS CAMPAIGN HAS ALSO TURNED ITS GUNS ON DRAFT RESOLUTION AND (AS REPORTED IN SOVIET PRESS) ITS ORIGINATOR, BRITISH MP F. BENNETT FOR URGING AN EXPANSION OF MILITARY COOPERATION BETWEEN WESTERN EUROPE AND PEKING AND THE BUILDUP OF CHINESE MILITARY POTENTIAL. ARTICLE SPECIFICALLY ATTACKS DRAFT RESOLUTION'S ALLEGED RECOGNITION OF A "COMPLETE COINCIDENCE" OF CHINESE AND WESTERN EUROPEAN VIEWS AND INTERESTS IN THE FIELD OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY "ON AN ANTI-SOVIET BASIS." ARTICLE NOTES APPROVINGLY THAT FINAL DRAFT OF BENNETT'S REPORT HAD BEEN "SOFTENED" AND THE "GROSSEST ANTI-SOVIET INVENTIONS" REMOVED; HOWEVER, IT THEN CHARGES THAT THE "ESSENCE" OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS REMAIN "IN A MORE VEILED FORM" AND IS NOTHING OTHER THAN A DELIBERATELY PROVOCATIVE DEMONSTRATION OF HOSTILITY TOWARD THE SOVIET UNION AND OTHER "SOCIALIST" COUNTRIES.

3. MAY 21 INTERNATIONAL WEEK PRAVDA COMMENTARY ATTACKS FRENCH AND BRITISH CONSIDERATION OF SALE OF "HOT" MISSILE AND HARRIER AIRCRAFT TO PEKING, CITING CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR STATEMENT THAT HARRIER COULD BE USED TO ATTACK SIBERIAN AIR BASES. COMMENTARY REGISTERS STRONG SOVIET WARNINGS AGAINST WESTERN EUROPE ATTEMPTING TO EXPLOIT SINO-SOVIET DIFFERENCES. CONFIDENTIAL

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4. MAY 23 PRAVDA COMMENTARY ALSO DENOUNCES WEU DRAFT REPORT REFERENCES TO THE PRC, CITING ITALIAN NEWSPAPER STUMPA AS STATING THAT CHINA IS PLAYING AN EVER GROWING ROLE IN THE STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS OF WASHINGTON AND THE NATO EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. ARTICLE STERNLY WARNS WESTERN EUROPE AGAINST REPEATING A PAST EUROPEAN ATTEMPT "TO CHANNEL" AGGRESSION AGAINST THE SOVIET UNION. END UNCLASSIFIED.

5. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL. COMMENT: THE WEU DRAFT RESOLUTION'S REFERENCES TO PRC, LIKE SIR CAMERON'S REMARKS IN CHINA, IS A NATURAL TARGET FOR SOVIET PROTESTATIONS AND WARNINGS ABOUT WESTERN COLLUSION WITH OR ARMS SALES TO PEKING. WE ANTICIPATE SOVIET ATTACKS ON DRAFT RESOLUTION TO CONTINUE UNTIL IT IS CONSIDERED AT UPCOMING JUNE SESSION OF WESTERN EUROPEAN ASSEMBLY. MATLOCK

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Disposition Reason:
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